

Community-Led Research as Service Learning

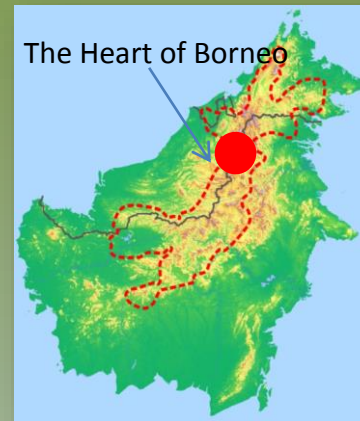
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Introduction

- **ISITI-UNIMAS** has been researching the use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) by remote communities in the Heart of Borneo for 17 years.
- **Cornell's Public Service Center** has been engaging students, alumni and faculty with communities since 1991.
- **Cornell's Department of Natural Resources** creates knowledge and facilitates learning to improve society's stewardship of the environment and promote a conservation ethos for a sustainable planet.
- **Cornell's Global Citizenship and Sustainability Program** works to learn and take action collaboratively in addressing issues relating to climate change. It fosters engaged research, cross-cultural learning experiences, student leadership and social responsibility.



- **Bario**
- **Long Lamai**



Community Resilience

DRIVERS OF CHANGE



DIMENSIONS OF RESILIENCE



THREATS



Tourism
Education
Modernization
Infrastructure; roads
Indigenized development
Energy development
Migration; in & out
Modern agriculture
ICTs

History
Memory
Social capital
Resource robustness
Community competences
Economic development
Energy development
Adaptive capacities
Religion
ICTs

Brain drain
Natural disasters
Waste management
Loss of traditional knowledge
Orthodox development;
dams, plantations
Water availability
Climate change
Deforestation
Language loss

**Community-Based
Participatory Action Research**

Service-learning expertise

CBR/PAR skills and experience

Local knowledge

Human dimensions of
natural resources expertise

Community resilience expertise

UNIMAS-Cornell partnership

ICTD expertise

Cornell and UNIMAS students

Relationships with the communities

THE ROOTS OF OUR WORK

How can community resilience be enhanced?



Student – Community Activities

1. Interviews
2. Workshops
3. Site visits
4. Cultural activities
5. Visual charting
6. Walking tours
7. Research projects
8. Feedback
9. Reflection



Long Lamai Research Projects



Information Technologies

- Access, use, sustainability, UNIMAS support, impact



Potable Water

- Dam and pipe maintenance, assistance (government , others), household delivery, rainwater harvesting.



Community-based Eco-tourism

- Carrying capacity, homestay standards, access, marketing, organisation, handicrafts, trails, culture.

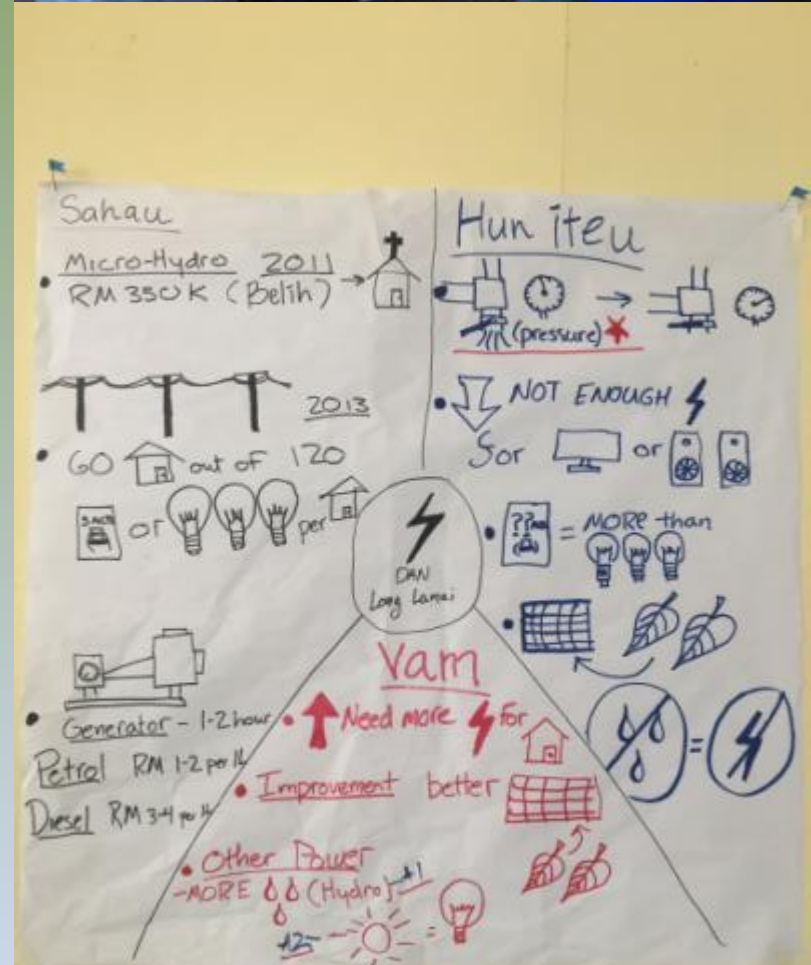
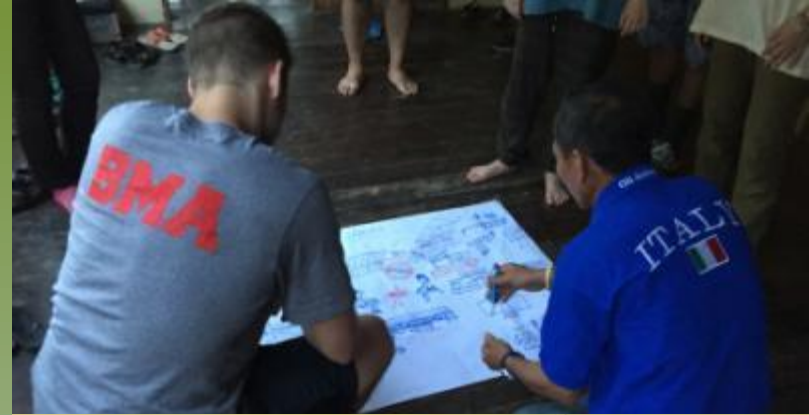


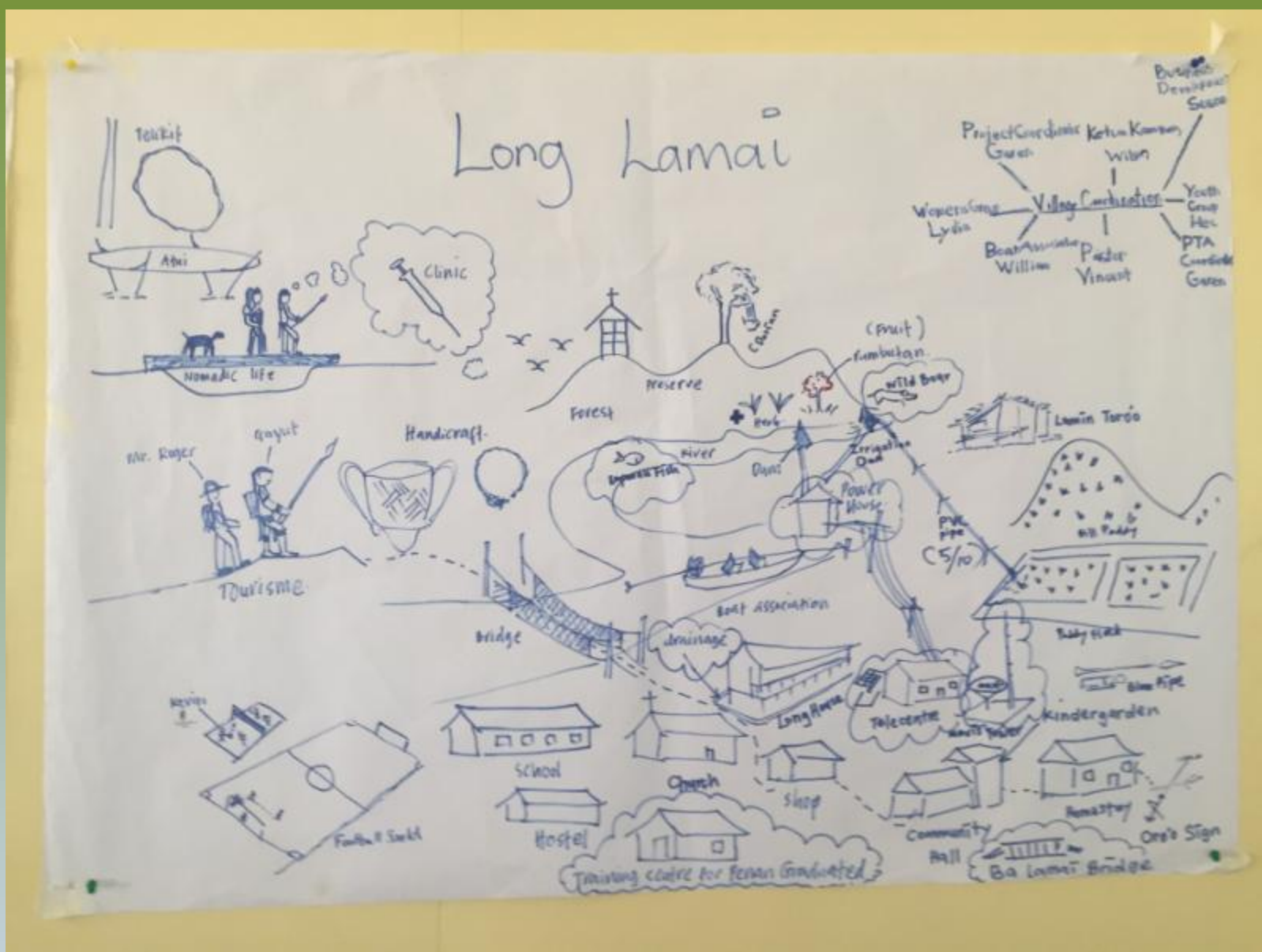
Electricity

- Hydro efficiency, household delivery, demand & supply, solar alternatives.



- 4 teams were formed to investigate the root causes of the issues, document the history, and identify alternatives for future inquiry
 - Teams included both students and community members





Visual Chart of Long Lamai Community

Developed jointly by Long Lamai elders and UNIMAS and Cornell students, January 2016

Observations

Communities can be readily facilitated to voice their immediate requirements and concerns, provided appropriate approaches are adopted.

- Earlier research and the pre-visit preparation identified many potential and valid topics for research, but when communities were facilitated towards their current concerns, a different set of topics emerged.



When results emerge from community-led research, tangible benefits become possible.

- Accordingly, the findings from the research projects, which were conducted together with residents, had immediate relevance for the communities.



Students learn the right lesson when communities take the lead.

- That solutions should be relevant and practical for genuine benefits to emerge. Too often, externally-driven development interventions aren't always like this.



Outcomes

Students' Digital Story

